



**Our Ref:** LTM/kmd/xmasletter

11 December 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

### **Re: End of Term Updates**

As we approach our last week in school, I wanted to provide some important updates for all families to help support the end of term, alongside ensuring everyone is aware of arrangements for the start of the Spring term.

### **End of Term Arrangements**

Our last day of term is Friday, 20 December 2024 and school will finish at 1:10pm with buses scheduled to depart at 1:20pm. Families are asked to put arrangements in place for those travelling on buses to ensure that from drop off, onward journeys homes are secure; thank you for your support with this.

From Monday, 16 December onwards, we have our end of term trips to the cinema, bowling and other activities in school to celebrate the festive period. We also look forward to bringing the whole school together during our Christmas assembly on the last day of term where we will celebrate achievements across the term.

### **Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner**

On Thursday, 19 December we will be encouraging all students to arrive with their Christmas jumpers and contribute a £1 to go towards Save the Children. On this day we will also be celebrating with our Christmas dinner and we look forward to all students enjoying time together during their festive lunch prepared by our school catering team - Caterlink.

### **Start of Spring Term**

For students, the new term starts on Tuesday, 7 January 2025 (following an initial PD day for staff). Please note, this is a Week 2 on the timetable for all students.

### **Thank You to Staff**

At the end of this term, we say goodbye to Mrs Goodison and Mrs Griffiths. Mrs Goodison has provided significant pastoral support for many students and families over the last 10 years; as part of our wider support team, she has always been there when students have faced a range of challenges, offering good advice and helping put them back on track. I know she will be missed by everyone across the school community. Mrs Griffith (Food Technology) also moves on, she has helped significantly develop provision within Food Technology and been a valued member of our Design & Technology team. Thank you and good luck to both in the future.

### **Preparing for the New Term**

- Looking forward to the new term, staff have an initial PD Day on Monday, 6 January focusing on the further development of literacy across the curriculum and the importance of this to ensure that all students can effectively access the curriculum and develop their thinking.

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In addition, at the start of the term we will be developing work that has taken place across the last term linked to promoting learning goals in lessons; 'bell work' activity which supports lesson starters and requires students to recall prior learning; engaging all students through 'cold call questioning' where students are randomly selected to give responses at key points within the lesson; impact of homework and effective questioning.

- We are currently reviewing some school policies to further support students in school and will be communicating any updates to you shortly. Our priority as always is to ensure that our students can be successful in all aspects of school life and our school routines provide an effective environment to ensure this happens. One development is that we will again be providing students with a paper-based planer to help support with their organisation in school and to support learning in lessons.
- As always, on our return we will be undertaking regular uniform checks; we recognise the importance of students being smart in school and would ask all parents to take any action require over the holiday period to support our school uniform requirements as outlined on the school website. ([uniform-policy-sept-2024.pdf](#)).

Can I use this opportunity to thank all students, families and staff for their ongoing support. We will be sharing our end of term newsletter next week but would like to use this initial opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, an enjoyable holiday period and all the very best for the New Year.

Yours faithfully



**Lee Tristham**  
Headteacher